

# STEEP AND STROUD NEWSLETTER

NO 641

MAY 2026





Cover Picture and opposite: Andrew Plaistow  
Above: Andrew's South Downs' motif pottery

**SELF STORAGE - 519 SQ FT AVAILABLE.**

Large enough for 4 classic cars.

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Steep - 01730 269136



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# POTTERING IN STEEP

Andrew Plaistow

I was reluctant to apply to be on a reality TV show, but my husband Will, who had gently but persistently been suggesting for some time that I should apply for The Great Pottery Throw-down, eventually persuaded me that I should. And I'm very pleased he did!

I've been a hobby potter for almost twenty years but until we came to Steep in 2021 I had only ever done evening classes. With more space and a second-hand wheel given to me by a friend, I was able to practise more regularly, and I eventually felt confident enough in my abilities to apply for the show.

Although I was confident on the wheel, I'd done very little hand building before and on the show contestants have to slab and coil and sculpt as well. They are also expected to illustrate and decorate the surfaces of their pieces in ways I never had; my decorating technique had always been to dunk pots in buckets of coloured glazes and hope for the best. There was lots to learn!

Fortunately, there's a great pottery community around Steep and Petersfield and I got lots of advice from local potters; I also did a couple of crash courses at West Dean, which has an excellent ceramics department. I was able to use the kilns at Bedales and

get advice from the excellent ceramics teachers and technicians there as well. So, in September last year I was all set to head up to the Gladstone Pottery Museum in Stoke on Trent to start filming.

It was a gruelling schedule and sustaining creativity under time pressure for days on end was exhausting, but being on the show was a wonderfully creative and exciting experience, and I met an incredible bunch of like-minded people who will be friends for life. Everyone was so talented; it was a very strong field and every week I was convinced I was going home. I'm very proud of how long I stayed on!



Since being on the show, I've begun making and selling at ceramics markets. I'll be making mugs for sale at, and to raise money for, Steep Flower Show this summer, so come along and say hello if you're about.

You can still watch the show on catchup on Channel 4 and I'm (occasionally) on Instagram @plaidough if you'd like to have a look at what I'm making.

The newsletter is always pleased to hear from you with your projects which may interest others, so please let us know of them so that we can feature their stories too.

**WANTED –**

**A NEW CHOIR LEADER FOR ALL SAINTS' CHURCH CHOIR**

Our lovely choir leader for the past 14 years, Ellie Thackray, is moving in the summer, and the choir badly needs a musical and choral enthusiast who can lead the choir from September onwards.

Churchgoers will know Ellie and the immense contribution she has made to worship at All Saints' church and especially to the choir where she has been an inspiring and much-loved leader.

If you think you can step into Ellie's shoes then please come forward – we need you!

David Dobson 261344

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# DIARY DATES

## STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

Next Meetings:

**Tues 5th May**

**Monday 11th May AGM AND APA**

Both at 7.30pm at **Steep Village Hall**.

All welcome.

Contact: Sam Marchant

([clerk@steep-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@steep-pc.gov.uk))

<https://www.steep-pc.gov.uk/>

## STEEP FILM SOCIETY

Steep Village Hall, 7.30 for 8pm start.

**9th May TROUBLE WITH JESSICA**

**22nd May SONG SUNG BLUE**

See Page 10 for details

<https://steepfilmsociety.org.uk/>

## BEDALES LIVE EVENTS

**Wed 6th May Music Scholars'**

Concert

**Mon 11th & Tue 12th May 6.1 Thea-**

tre Studies A Level Devised Drama

**Thu 14th & Fri 15th May Prep Rock**

Show

**Mon 1st & Tue 2nd Jun Bedales Prep**

Summer Play

To book tickets please visit

<https://www.bedales.org.uk/whats-on>

## ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

**Sun 26th April ANNUAL PAROCHIAL**

CHURCH MEETING

## COLDHAYES OPEN GARDENS

**Sun 14th June at 2-4pm** See page 9

for details.

## PETERSFIELD JAZZ & BLUES FESTIVAL

**Sat 30th May 11:30 - 23:00**

at **Bedales** Adult tickets: £40

<https://www.petersfieldjazzfest.com/>

## STROUD PARISH COUNCIL

Next Meetings:

**28th April ANNUAL PARISH**

ASSEMBLY

**Tues 19th May**

Both at 7.30pm at **Stroud Village Hall**.

All welcome.

Contact: Sam Marchant

([clerk@stroud-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stroud-pc.gov.uk))

<https://www.stroud-pc.gov.uk/>

## STROUD EVENING W.I.

All meetings take place at **Stroud Village Hall**, on a Tuesday, starting at **7.30pm**.

**May 12th ANNUAL MEETING**, "The

Balloon Man" (Rob Driscoll) &

Denman Bursary Award

[https://hampshire.thewi.org.uk/find-](https://hampshire.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/stroud-evening)

[wi/stroud-evening](https://hampshire.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/stroud-evening). X @WiStroud

## STEEP WELCOME CLUB

**Thurs 14th May Steep Village Hall at**

**2.30pm**

PIPPA MADGWICK SHARES HER

IDEAS ON "FEEDING THE WORLD IN A CHANGING CLIMATE".

**Thurs 28th May LUNCH at The Tea**

**Barn, Durleighmarsh at 12 noon.**

Meals will be pre-ordered and

transport arranged beforehand.

*Heather Maybury: 07554 747361;*

*01730 266855; [hjmaybury@gmail.com](mailto:hjmaybury@gmail.com)*

*[judy.thompson@me.com](mailto:judy.thompson@me.com)*

**PLANT SALE** for Steep Flower Show

**Sat 16th May, 2 - 4pm**

50 Church Road, Steep.

[https://steep-flower-show-](https://steep-flower-show-sumupstore.com)

[sumupstore.com](https://steep-flower-show-sumupstore.com)

# STEEP AND STROUD NEWS

## STEEP PARISH COUNCIL

*Barry Haywood  
Councillor, Steep Parish Council*

The Parish Council met on 13 April at the Village Hall

### Public comment

One member of the public asked what progress had been made in replying to their enquiries regarding the development at Church Road, and the transfer of the lands to the Steep in Need Charity. The council has taken legal advice on this matter from Hampshire County Council Legal Services and the council approved a letter in response to the enquiry. This reply, alongside other recent correspondence about the development, will be posted on the Parish Council website in due course.

### County Council report

Russell Oppenheimer (HCC Councillor for Petersfield Hangers) gave an overview of the new council boundaries and what it is likely to mean to all of us. He was very upbeat about the changes and believes that eventually more government funding will become available to the new councils.

However, he also thinks that because of the size of our new council area, more responsibility will be placed on parish councils in the future. Russell will be standing down at the May elections to pursue his

new teaching career and the Parish Council thanked him for his hard work and wished him all the best for the future.

### Church Road Public Open Space

EHDC chose the new development off Church Road to be known as Allotment Gardens to reflect the name of this field from historic maps. It will include an area of Public Open Space (POS) and there are options for the council, the Steep War Memorial Village Club or the development's management company to own this once the building works are nearing completion. In the coming weeks, the council will formulate the pros and cons of ownership and publish this in a future newsletter for your views. If anyone has any early comments, then please send a note to Councillor Haywood:

[barry.haywood@steep-pc-gov.uk](mailto:barry.haywood@steep-pc-gov.uk)

### Steep Common

It has been noted that the lovely new gate to the common off Church Road has been damaged and will require replacing. Please take care when turning cars in this entrance as repairs are costly, and a reminder that parking is not allowed in this entrance space.

## Church Road 20mph Speed Limit

The council has been informed of the cost of implementing the new 20mph signage along Church Road and it is surprisingly high. Because of this, the council are investigating alternative ways of slowing down traffic and ultimately improving pedestrian safety. Councillors are also enquiring which grants may be available to help fund this (or any) scheme both here and across other problem areas in the parish.

If you have anything you would like to comment on or contact the council for assistance with then please do not hesitate to contact Sam, our Clerk: [clerk@steep-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@steep-pc.gov.uk)

You are all welcome to the next meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday, 5 May 2026 at 7.30pm at Steep village hall.

The AGM will be held on Monday, 11 May at 7.30pm with the APA following at 8pm in the village hall.

**Petersfield  
MUSEUM** 

Visit our newly refurbished Victorian Justice site for an exciting range of fantastic events, stunning exhibitions and gifts from our shop.

**Become a Friend for just £25 a year.**

**Museum open**

Wed – Sat: 10:00am – 5:00pm

For all Museum information, go to [www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk](http://www.petersfieldmuseum.co.uk)

## STEEP FLOWER SHOW

*Lucy McIlwraith*

# PLANT SALE

**Saturday 16th May 2-4 pm**  
at  
**50 Church Road**

Please join us to enjoy whatever surprise plants we have for sale! It's a lovely community occasion and you're bound to find something lovely for your garden as well as having great gardening advice and a friendly chat.

Donations: Please bring any donated plants of any size to 50 Church Rd, Steep between 10-12am if you can. It is much easier to sell them when they are labelled, so if you can, please do! We also welcome donations of homemade cakes (with what kind it is and potential allergens highlighted in a note please).

Please come from 2pm in the afternoon with a bag or box to carry away your new treasures. We accept cash or card payments.

Enjoy relaxing in the garden with tea and cake accompanied by light jazz played by our apprentice band.

The money raised contributes to running the summer flower show, this year on 22nd August in the marquee at Bedales.

<https://steep-flower-show.sumupstore.com/>  
email: [steepflowershow@gmail.com](mailto:steepflowershow@gmail.com)

## STROUD VILLAGE HALL

*Katy Lace  
Hall Manager*

The annual village Litter Pick took place last month, and we were pleased to donate the hall as a base for the Parish Council. Volunteers of all ages gathered at the hall before heading out, and after a hard morning's work spring-cleaning the village, everyone returned for well-earned coffee and cake. It's always surprising how much rubbish is collected, which shows just how important this annual tradition is for both the people and the wildlife that call Stroud home.



Behind the scenes, we've been busy organising essential repairs and completing our annual safety inspections. A big thank-you to the Community Garden team, who have been hard at work weeding and mowing to keep the gardens looking beautiful this spring.

Plans for Stroud Revels are well underway and tickets are now on sale. This year the Social Committee has introduced a new Early Bird discount on tickets purchased before the end of May – so don't miss out. Follow us on Facebook or visit the village hall website for more details.

We know that not everyone in the village uses the website or social media, and we want to make sure no one misses out on news or events. If you, or someone you know, would prefer to receive updates by post, please get in touch and we'll add you to our postal distribution list.

All village hall news – including events, classes, and community updates – will continue to be shared on our website, Facebook page, and on posters around the village, so there are plenty of ways to stay connected.

Finally an update on our availability. We currently have good availability during weekday afternoons for regular classes or clubs, as well as Thursday and Friday evening slots. Weekends are already getting booked up for parties well into the summer so if you're planning to hire the hall for an event please do get in touch or go online.

**Bookings & enquiries:** Katy Lace – [manager@stroudvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:manager@stroudvillagehall.org.uk) or book online at [www.stroudvillagehall.org](http://www.stroudvillagehall.org)

## STROUD COMMUNITY GARDEN

*Katy Lace*

*On behalf of Stroud Garden Group*

Mowing has now started in earnest, with a fortnightly rota keeping our gardening volunteers busy. Dave has been hard at work pulling up the first weeds of the season, and Glen and Kat have been filling gaps in the hedgerows with young plants.

Following several requests, the gardening team has created a lovely new seating area near the stream, complete with a hand-woven willow fence around the flowerbed crafted by Glen and Philip.

The next plans for the garden include relocating the compost area away from the stream to a more permanent site, as well as purchasing two new water butts using the remaining funds from the South East Water grant. The team is committed to making the gardens as wildlife-friendly and sustainable as possible, so every decision is taken with this in mind.

The gardens are there for the whole community to enjoy, and we encourage everyone to make use of them. Just a gentle reminder to treat the plants and trees with care and avoid disturbing the hideaways of the little creatures who call the garden home.

We welcome new volunteers of all ages and experience. If you'd like to get involved, please get in touch. [manager@stroudvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:manager@stroudvillagehall.org.uk)

## THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

*Heather Maybury*

March was the month for opening The Children's Society boxes and receiving cheques for this very worthwhile young people's charity. This year the total collected was £443.04 so thank you very much to all the regular donors.

If anyone would like a box in which to put your spare change during the year, please get in touch with me. As actual coins are not as much in use as they once were, some donors have changed to giving me a cheque in March each year, made out to The Children's Society. Either way your donations would be very gratefully received.

[hjmaybury@gmail.com](mailto:hjmaybury@gmail.com).

07554 747361

### **COLDHAYES OPEN GARDEN**

**SUNDAY 14th JUNE 2-4pm**

**'What is Paradise but a Garden?'**

**Afternoon Tea - Stalls - Family Fun**

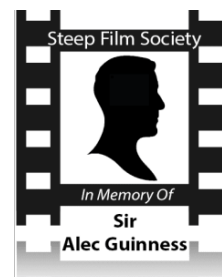
**Explore and Enjoy**



**In aid of All Saints' Church Funds**

## STEEP FILM SOCIETY

Steep Film Society is a charity which shows films every fortnight at Steep Village Hall.



Members pay £6 per showing, guests are welcome but pay a bit more. For free membership go to <https://steepfilmsociety.org.uk/> or contact Robin Hollington at [robin.hollington@steepfilmsociety.org.uk](mailto:robin.hollington@steepfilmsociety.org.uk).

Book preferably online or by email or phone to Robin or (01730 774869). Please check online that your membership is in date.

## May Films

**9th May** THE TROUBLE WITH JESSICA gives us wealthy, privileged characters faced with dire circumstances that expose their hypocrisy, cluelessness, and willingness to jettison morality at the expense of those with less power.

The script, by James Handel and director Matt Winn, is tightly constructed. Seeing how quickly the characters burst through the thin veneer of cozy comity and unleash utter ruthlessness is unsettling but bracing.

**22nd May** SONG SUNG BLUE stars Hugh Jackman and Kate Hudson as a real-life couple who fall in love and get married and form a Neil Diamond tribute band called Lightning and

Thunder. Then things got very complicated as all of those things started pulling on the rope at the same time. This film which follows the Milwaukee married couple as they rise to fame with a real-life band is undeniably entertaining

### SAVE THE DATE - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE!

June is a busy month at All Saints' Steep so please try and keep these dates free.

**Wednesday 3rd June:** Evening - Licensing by Bishop Jonathan of Sue our current curate, as Assistant Vicar.

The service begins at **6pm** followed by celebratory refreshments.

**Sunday 7th June:** Our very popular Pet's Service will be at TenAM, All Saints'

**Sunday 21st June:** The Steep Lecture. This year our guest is Carole Souter CBE. She is the current interim Chair of Historic Royal Palaces and former Master of St. Cross College, Oxford.

Further details of these events will be in the next Newsletter.

## STEEP TENNIS CLUB

*Lynette Clarke*  
*Steep Tennis Club Joint Social*  
*Secretary*

A warm welcome to all in Steep and Stroud and their friends and families of all ages to come along to Steep Tennis Club and find out more about joining our friendly local tennis club!

Long gone are the days of "all whites" or "play ins". The "elitist" tennis club that I first knew 40 years ago is happily a thing of the past! I am genuinely pleased to say that this is now a welcoming club, with lots of opportunities for players of all ages and skills. All you need is a racket and a keenness to meet other players and take part.

We have 8 floodlit courts (6 hard courts and 2 clay) so play goes on all year and there are "mix- ins" for adults three times a week as part of the membership fees. You can also, of course, simply play with your own group of member friends or join one of the several groups that get together regularly. We also organise various social events for members including BBQs in the summer months and occasional "serious" and "fun" tournaments, so everyone also has a chance to have a go at competing no matter what their age or skill level.

If you are more competitive you may be able to join one of the many club teams competing at all levels in various local leagues. Beginners/improvers/experts and children are welcome to sign up to additional paid for group and private lessons from our

excellent highly qualified Head Coach, Liam Vacher.

For the free Open Day, we are looking forward to meeting you and accompanied children to show you around our beautiful club. You can pick up a tennis racket - we have some to lend or bring your own – and you'll be able to play with current members (Please wear trainers). You can even sign up via our website for a range of free coaching sessions with our very experienced Head Coach, Liam Vacher. Visit [www.steepltc.org.uk](http://www.steepltc.org.uk) and click on the Open Day 2026 tab.

Most importantly, if you join the club on the day, we are offering a one-off discounted membership.

I and the Committee and my fellow club members all look forward to meeting you on the day and very much hope to join you on court in the future!

Lynette can be contacted at [social@steepltc.org.uk](mailto:social@steepltc.org.uk)  
For any questions, please email Membership Secretary, Matt Thompson  
[membership@steepltc.org.uk](mailto:membership@steepltc.org.uk)  
[www.steepltc.org.uk](http://www.steepltc.org.uk)



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# RON'S NOTES

*Ron Allen*

## **A progression of flowers**

As I write this in early April, we are passing through what Mary calls the 'season of yellow'.

We have many of the early yellows still in flower, the primrose and cowslip, Forsythia and daffodils in the garden, with lesser celandine along the road verges and common and goldilocks buttercups appearing. Now, into the second phase of 'yellow' we see gorse coming into full bloom, oil seed rape in the fields, and golden dandelions on the verges. We have already had many of the 'whites'; the snowdrops are over, and the bright white flowers of the blackthorn are now declining while the gean (or wild cherry) is coming into flower. Even the bumble bees have yellow bands, and we see the brilliant yellow brimstone butterflies.

As spring progresses, the trees and shrubs and hedgerows are greening, the hawthorns are about to flower and so we pass into a more colourful period of late spring. We have bluebells and speedwells, red campion and red deadnettle, violets, red admiral and peacock butterflies, and many more colourful flowers and insects.

Strange things are happening in the garden. High up on our dead oak

tree, false puffballs are appearing. Neither animal, plant nor fungus but rather single-celled protists, a group that includes microscopic algae, protozoans such as amoebae, and the slime molds. These false puffballs start off as amoeba-like creatures feeding on micro-organisms and dead wood before emerging to the surface where they clump together as a slimy mass before forming into a soft white cauliflower like mass 30-50mm across. Here, they gradually develop a silvery skin and spore-forming tissue forms inside. Now, the skin peels off revealing the dark brown spore mass within. It will shed its spores into the breeze to start the cycle again.

On the primroses, the brown furry beeflies are hovering and probing deep for nectar with their long rigid spear-like proboscises held out in front. Once fed, they fly over the lawn, stopping to seek out the vertical burrows of several species of solitary mining bee. Once a nest is found, they will flick out their eggs towards the mining bee burrows and, on hatching, the beefly larvae will crawl down into the solitary bee burrows and feed on the unfortunate solitary bee larvae.



22-25TH MAY 2026

## All Saints' Church East Meon GU32 1NJ

Over 20 displays in & around the church, celebrating village community groups & rural life.

- Church History Tours with James Rothwell
- Art Exhibition
- Delicious Teas & Cakes
- Octavus Choir Saturday night
- Bell Ringing
- Special Church Service Sunday Evening
- Jazz with Kati Whitaker

### BUY YOUR FLOWER FESTIVAL TICKETS



<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eastmeonflowerfestival2026>

### WITH THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



## EAST MEON FLOWER FESTIVAL

All Saints' Church, East Meon, is delighted to announce the return of its much-loved Flower Festival, taking place from Friday 22 May to Monday 25 May 2026.

For four days, the beautiful Grade I listed church will be dressed up with stunning floral displays, transforming this historic 11th-century building into a celebration of creativity, nature and community.

There will be 22 floral-themed displays, each created by and representing the many groups and societies that make up village life in East Meon, reflecting the rich character of the community.

A central theme this year is the countryside and sustainability. Wherever possible, arrangements will use locally sourced, environmentally friendly materials. Held in May, the festival takes full advantage of the season's abundant greenery bringing the natural beauty of the Meon Valley into the church in an organic and sympathetic way.

All Saints' requires constant and urgent care and proceeds from the Flower Festival will directly support some vital projects.

Visitors can enjoy delicious teas, a local artists' exhibition, live jazz, daily history tours, and hear the bells peal throughout the weekend. The talented Octavus Choir will be performing on Saturday pm, 23rd May with a floral-themed programme of music and poetry. Tickets are sold

separately and include a glass of wine!

TICKETS FROM:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/petersfield/all-saints-church/octavus-choir-concert-to-celebrate-the-2026-east-meon-flower-festival/e-logoyo>

For up-to-date information on events and timings please also see @eastmeonflowerfestival instagram!

We really look forward to welcoming you to the festival in May!

TICKETS FROM:

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/eastmeonflowerfestival2026>

## FROXFIELD CHOIR

Froxfield Choir's annual summer concert in Privett church is always the highlight of our choral year. Holy Trinity is a joy to perform in, and it is almost always packed to capacity for our June concert. The churchyard provides a beautiful setting on a summer evening as friends gather to have drinks during the interval. Renowned for its 160-foot spire, the Victorian Gothic Revival landmark is now maintained by the Churches Conservation Trust and as well as occasional services, provides the perfect concert venue. This year's concert is on Saturday 20 June at 7.30pm. The programme includes Bach's Magnificat in D and the Te Deum by Marc-Antoine Charpentier. Tickets are available from One Tree Books, Petersfield, and from Ticketsource. £20 adult/£15 students. We hope to see you there!

## ROASTED ONIONS

*Elizabeth Housden*

These are very versatile. You can use it as an accompaniment to main courses, a snack or a starter. Very easy!

You can also use these as an accompaniment to various dishes, on sliced toast with poached eggs and are very good with sausages.

### Ingredients:

- 8 medium onions, peeled and quartered
- 3 tbsp vegetable oil
- ½ tsp sea salt flakes
- ½ tsp coarsely ground pepper
- 2 tbsp caster sugar
- 7 fl ozs vegetable or chicken stock
- 2 tbsp cider vinegar
- 4 tbsp raisins

### Method:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Place a roasting tin in the oven when you turn it on.
2. Toss the onions in the oil with salt, pepper and caster sugar in a bowl.
3. Tip into the hot roasting tin and cook for 45 minutes, stirring occasionally. The onions should be soft and blackened at the edges. The layers may have separated. This is fine.
4. Add stock, vinegar and raisins to the pan and stir well.
5. Return to the oven for a few minutes. Serve hot.  
Yum!!



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# CHURCH NEWS

*Amanda Greenlee*

## **Holy Week**

As Lent drew to a close we began to hear the events leading up to the Crucifixion of Jesus. Palm Sunday was celebrated at High Cross where we listened to the Gospel account. In our Benefice Froxfield saw a service of readings and prayers on the morning of Good Friday and Steep held a service of the last hour of the Cross. In Petersfield several of our congregation participated in the PACT Walk of Witness in the morning. People gathered at the Methodist Church and followed the Cross that was carried through the town with prayers and readings until we reached the Square. Windy weather had meant the Salvation Army band had set up inside St Peter's so the procession moved straight into the church, rather than having the planned outside service. David Muskett, chair of PACT preached to a full church and all enjoyed refreshment afterwards.

On Easter Saturday Sue Jones led us in the Easter Fire service. In the lee of Privett church porch the Paschal Candle was lit from the flames of the fire. We heard the ancient words of the Exsultet read by Gilly Hollis. The wind caught the embers of the fire and they whirled upwards as Sue told us of the hundred of years Christians had looked over the valley and fields and celebrated the Resurrection.

## **Easter Day**

The first service of the day was the Dawn service at Froxfield Green. As usual Suzanne Tong had ensured all

was ready for Susie to take the communion service at 6am. We entered the church with the moon in the sky and left listening to the dawn chorus. Jan welcomed us to her neighbouring cottage for a very welcome breakfast. At ten All Saints' church was full with regular families and visitors for the All Age Parish Communion Service, again conducted by Susie. After the service David and Carole Kidd ensured refreshments were enjoyed by all. The following Sunday Adrian Harbidge took the main service and assured us we were still celebrating Easter. He recalled a walk of witness he had participated in a New Forest village where a group of pre school children dressed as bunnies sang 'Run rabbit run rabbit hop hop hop' and encouraged us to hop into new life with Christ.

## **Church Repairs**

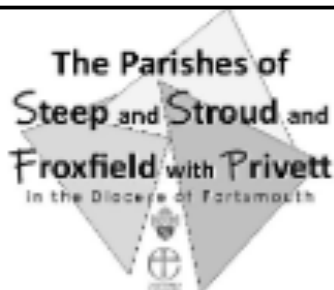
The scheduled repairs to the church roof have been completed using a 'cherry picker'. Moss has been removed, tiles replaced and gutters and timber repairs made. The cherry picker has not damaged the grass in the churchyard

## **Annual Parish Church Meeting**

In Steep this is being held after a shortened service on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Anyone can attend but only those on the electoral roll can vote in the election of new officers.

**WANTED** Friends of Steep Church **Secretary**. After 10 years devoted service Deirdre Mitchell has decided to retire. The requirement is not onerous - four meetings a year requiring sending out a calling notice and taking minutes of the meeting. Aspiring applicants please contact the Chairman, John Trewby, on [jatrewby@gmail.com](mailto:jatrewby@gmail.com) or 07799661763

**MAY**



**2026**

## **Benefice Worship**

**Sunday 3rd May Easter 5 (White)**

**8.30am** Holy Communion, (BCP, said), **Steep**

**10am** The TenAM, **Steep**

**10am** Shortened Parish Communion & APCM, **High Cross**

**Sunday 10th May Easter 6 (White)**

**8.30am** Holy Communion (BCP, said), **Stroud**

**10am** Parish Communion, **Steep**

**Thursday 14th May- Ascension Day**

**8.00am** Ascension Day Prayers, **Privett**

**7.15pm** Ascension Day Communion, **Steep**

**Sunday 17th May Easter 7 (White)**

**8.30am** Holy Communion (BCP, said), **Steep**

**10am** Parish Communion, **High Cross**

**Sunday 24th May Pentecost (Red)**

**8.30am** Holy Communion (BCP, said), **Stroud**

**10am** Parish Communion, **Steep** **11am**

Morning Prayer, (BCP), **Froxfield Green**

**Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday (Gold)**

**10am** Benefice Service, **Holy Trinity, Privett**

*Welcome to a variety of services across our benefice. For further information, request our weekly emailed news sheet at*

**[steepfroxfordprivett@gmail.com](mailto:steepfroxfordprivett@gmail.com)**. or visit  
our website **[www.steepfroxford.com](http://www.steepfroxford.com)**

**Steep: All Saints' GU32 2DD: Stroud Church GU32 1ATHigh  
Cross, St Peter's, GU32 1EQ; Froxfield Green, GU32  
1DQ; Privett: Holy Trinity, GU34 3PE**



Saturday 9th May, 7pm | St Peter's, Petersfield

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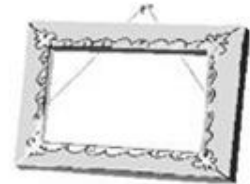
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**Parish Communion Services** are in modern language (Common Worship)

**Early Sunday Services (8.30am)** are said, in traditional language, from the Book of Common Prayer

**Silent Prayer, All Saints', Steep:** 6.30-7pm every Thursday

**The TenAM (all age less formal worship):** 10am on the first Sunday of the month

**Choir Practice:** 6pm on Fridays before 10am Parish Communion

**Sunday School:** Second Sunday of the month during 10am Parish Communion excluding school holidays

**Vicar, Steep and Froxfield with Privett and Area Dean of Petersfield:** The Revd Canon Susie Collingridge—624245, [Susie.collingridge@gmail.com](mailto:Susie.collingridge@gmail.com)

**Assistant Curate:** The Revd Sue Jones 07884 141019, [susan.jones1410@gmail.com](mailto:susan.jones1410@gmail.com)

**LLM Graham Madgwick** - 07946 197038, [g.madgwick@btinternet.com](mailto:g.madgwick@btinternet.com)

**PtO Clergy:** The Revd Dr Pippa Madgwick 07923 933649, [Pippa.madgwick1@btinternet.com](mailto:Pippa.madgwick1@btinternet.com)

**PtO LLM:** Caroline Hilton - 263460

**Lay Pastoral Assistant:** Lindsay Clegg - 827505, [lindsay.clegg@hotmail.com](mailto:lindsay.clegg@hotmail.com)

**Churchwardens: Steep:** Judy Thompson - 07769 182181, [judy.thompson@me.com](mailto:judy.thompson@me.com)

**Froxfield with Privett:** Lindsay Clegg – 827505, [lindsay.clegg@hotmail.com](mailto:lindsay.clegg@hotmail.com)

**Benefice administrator:** Helen Muir-Davies - [Steepfroxfordprivett@gmail.com](mailto:Steepfroxfordprivett@gmail.com)

**Gift aid(GA) and Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) officers:**

**Steep/Stroud:** Stephen Rae - 260571 and Caroline Robinson

([Caroline@rokehouse.co.uk](mailto:Caroline@rokehouse.co.uk)) **Froxfield/ Privett:** Ian Hughes – 828344

[n.ianhughes@btinternet.com](mailto:n.ianhughes@btinternet.com); Christine Stephens - [Christine@tcfk-stephens.co.uk](mailto:Christine@tcfk-stephens.co.uk)

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## **USEFUL CONTACTS** (telephone code 01730)

**Newsletter Editor:** Caroline Robinson, [caroline@rokehouse.co.uk](mailto:caroline@rokehouse.co.uk)

**Police Support Officer:** John Payne [john.payne@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:john.payne@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Steep Village website:** [www.steepvillage.com](http://www.steepvillage.com)

**Steep Parish Clerk:** Sam Marchant, [clerk@steep-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@steep-pc.gov.uk)

<https://www.steep-pc.gov.uk/>

**Stroud Parish Clerk:** Sam Marchant, [clerk@stroud-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stroud-pc.gov.uk)

<https://www.stroud-pc.gov.uk/>

**Stroud Village Hall:** Katy Lace, [manager@stroudvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:manager@stroudvillagehall.org.uk)

**Steep Village Hall:** Louise Knight, [manager@steepvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:manager@steepvillagehall.org.uk); 774936

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## **COPY FOR THE JUNE NEWSLETTER**

not later than midday on

**Monday 18th May**

**FOR STEEP** to Caroline Robinson at Roke House, Mill Lane, Steep GU32 2DJ; [caroline@rokehouse.co.uk](mailto:caroline@rokehouse.co.uk).

**FOR STROUD** to Jeremy Mitchell at Fairlands, Finchmead Lane, Stroud GU32 3PF; [mitchjd@btinternet.com](mailto:mitchjd@btinternet.com); 01730 267214.

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